

## Goodin, John

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**From:** Miller, Clay  
**Sent:** Monday, May 18, 2015 1:01 PM  
**To:** Goodin, John; Eisenberg, Mindy; Kaiser, Russell; Thomas, Jenny  
**Cc:** Evans, David; Hunter, Christopher; Landers, Timothy; Topping, Brian  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting Request, May 28-29 re: Chuitna Coal Project  
**Attachments:** DC EPA Meeting Request\_May28-29\_Chuitna.docx

A request has been made for a meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> by the Cook Inletkeeper and Chuitna Citizens Coalition to present the results of an assessment of the PacRim's plan to recreate a functioning salmon-based ecosystem after coal-mining operations take place in the Chuitna River watershed near Beluga, Alaska to USEPA staff for consideration. **If you are interested in attending I will include you in the search for a time that works...please let me know by COB today if you have interest.** (Jenny Thomas is our staff lead on Chuitna, but she is on leave during that day)...Thanks Clay

### Chuitna Coal Mine

#### Project Background:

- Proposed surface coal mine located on the west side of Cook Inlet near the Native Village of Tyonek and community of Beluga, approximately 45 minutes west of Anchorage.
- Project is proposed by PacRim Coal, LP; likely a subsidiary of a larger mining company.
- Would extract low-sulfur coal from the Beluga Coal Field for a minimum 25-year life of the mine and a production rate of up to 12 million tons of coal per year for export.
- Would be the largest coal mine in Alaska history.

#### Potential Impacts:

- Mine site is a headwater location where large wetland complexes supply water to streams in three salmon-bearing drainages that support subsistence, sport, and commercial fisheries.
- Mine would directly remove (to a depth of 300 feet) approximately 4,000 acres of peat wetlands and 100 miles of stream channel, including headwater streams.
- Authorizing the removal of salmon-bearing streams would be precedent-setting.
- Water management will also be an issue as dewatering the mine pit would discharge groundwater with elevated metal concentrations. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is considering development of site-specific criteria that would apply to these discharges.

**From:** Carly Wier [mailto:carly@alaskacoal.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 14, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Miller, Clay  
**Cc:** Hough, Palmer  
**Subject:** Meeting Request, May 28-29 re: Chuitna Coal Project

Dear Mr. Miller,

Please find the attached meeting request, background biographies, and a proposed agenda for a meeting with EPA staff concerning the proposed Chuitna Coal Project. Our team from Alaska will be in DC on May 28 and 29, and we would appreciate the opportunity to meet.

Feel free to contact me at this email address or by phone at 719-293-1202. Thanks for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Carly Wier

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Carly Wier  
Director, Alaskans First Campaign  
cell: 719-293-1202